

This Page Is Inserted by IFW Operations
and is not a part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images may include (but are not limited to):

- BLACK BORDERS
- TEXT CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- FADED TEXT
- ILLEGIBLE TEXT
- SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- COLORED PHOTOS
- BLACK OR VERY BLACK AND WHITE DARK PHOTOS
- GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

**As rescanning documents *will not* correct images,
please do not report the images to the
Image Problem Mailbox.**

THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
26 July 2001 (26.07.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 01/53385 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: C08G 77/08, (72) Inventor: CRIVELLO, James, Vincent; 756 Carlton Road, Clifton Park, NY 12065 (US).

77/18, 77/20 (21) International Application Number: PCT/US00/08666 (74) Agents: HANSEN, Philip, E. et al.; Heslin & Rothenberg, P.C., 5 Columbia Circle, Albany, NY 12203 (US).

(22) International Filing Date: 30 March 2000 (30.03.2000)

(81) Designated States (national): CA, JP, MX.

(25) Filing Language: English

(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).

(26) Publication Language: English

Published:
— with international search report

(30) Priority Data:
09/489,405 21 January 2000 (21.01.2000) US

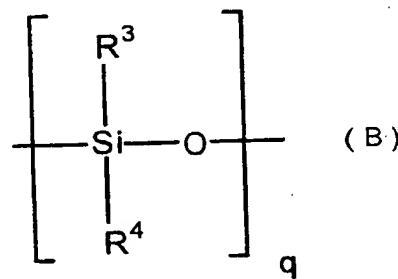
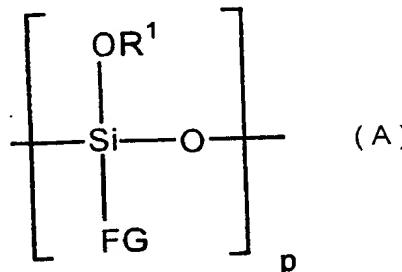
For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(71) Applicant: RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE [US/US]; 110 8th Street, Troy, NY 12180 (US).



(54) Title: EPOXY ALKOXY SILOXANE OLIGOMERS

WO 01/53385 A1



(57) Abstract: Polymerizable siloxane oligomers comprising a plurality of repeating units of formula (A) and at least one unit of formula (B) and terminating in a residue R² or R⁸ are disclosed. In these formulae FG is a functional group, such as 2-(3,4-epoxycyclohexylethyl), and the R groups are alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy or aryloxy of 1 to 10 carbons. Processes for preparing the oligomers by hydrolysis/condensation of monomers of formula (RO)₃Si FG and one or more alkoxy silane monomers of formula R³R⁴R⁸SiOR^{2a} are also disclosed, as are polymers resulting from the cationic polymerization of the oligomers.

EPOXY ALKOXY SILOXANE OLIGOMERS

Field of the Invention

The invention relates to epoxy alkoxy siloxane oligomers.

Background of the Invention

5 In recent years, there has been considerable interest in the photo, e-beam and thermally-induced cationic polymerization of siloxane-containing monomers and oligomers. Such monomers and oligomers have considerable potential in a wide diversity of applications including: non-stick release coatings, adhesives, abrasion resistant coatings for plastics, fiber optic coatings, reinforced composites and optical waveguides. The photopolymerizations of various multifunctional monomers characteristically proceeds only to low conversions due to trapping of residual reactive functional groups within the rigid, crosslinked network as it is formed. In this regard, siloxane containing monomers exhibit anomalous behavior that has been attributed to the conformational flexibility of the siloxane (Si-O-Si) bond and to free volume effects.

10

15

Preparation of multifunctional alkoxy siloxanes is difficult to accomplish by prior art methods. While epoxy-functional trialkoxy silanes are commercially available as starting materials, condensation polymerization of multifunctional alkoxy silanes generally results in crosslinked gels. Typically, alkoxy silanes such

as tetraethoxysilane (TEOS) are subjected to acid or base catalyzed hydrolysis-condensation in the presence of controlled amounts of water to yield a gel. In most acid catalyzed sol-gel processes, HCl is used, while NaOH and NH₄OH are often employed as base catalysts. However, it is difficult to reproducibly make 5 intermediate, soluble, low viscosity, fluid oligomers. When such materials are obtained, they exhibit poor pot-lives and they gel on standing, due to further condensation.

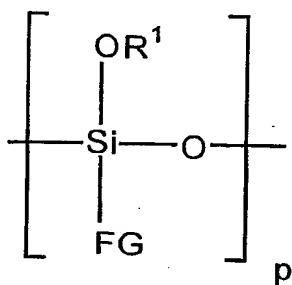
In addition, the basic hydrolysis catalysts used in the sol-gel reaction are strong inhibitors for cationic polymerizations, and the traces of basic catalysts that 10 remain in the product inhibit subsequent cationic polymerizations. On the other hand, acid hydrolysis catalysts are not generally useful for the synthesis of epoxy-functional siloxanes, since epoxy groups undergo spontaneous ring-opening reactions with acids.

There is therefore a need for a process for making pure multifunctional 15 alkoxy siloxane oligomers reproducibly and in good yield. There is also a need for alkoxy siloxane oligomers that have long pot-lives and low viscosity and that cure rapidly and completely. There is also a need for oligomers that can be polymerized to polymers having such desirable properties as: exhibiting no glass transition at temperatures below 300 °C; having a relatively low coefficient of thermal expansion 20 (CTE) between 0-180°C; having a high storage modulus; and remaining stable at elevated temperatures.

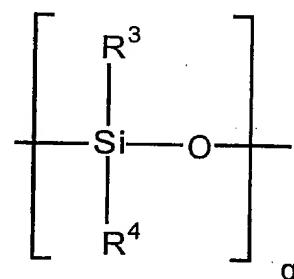
Summary of the Invention

In one aspect, the invention relates to a polymerizable siloxane oligomer comprising a plurality of repeating units of formula A and at least one unit of formula B:

5



A



B

and terminating in a residue R² or R⁸. In these formulae FG is a functional group. Each FG may be chosen from

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons terminating in a 1-alkenyl ether;

10

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens terminating in a 1-alkenyl ether;

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons terminating in an acrylate, an alpha-chloroacrylate, an alpha-cyanoacrylate or a methacrylate;

15

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens terminating in an acrylate, an alpha-chloroacrylate, an alpha-cyanoacrylate or a methacrylate;

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons substituted with an epoxide;

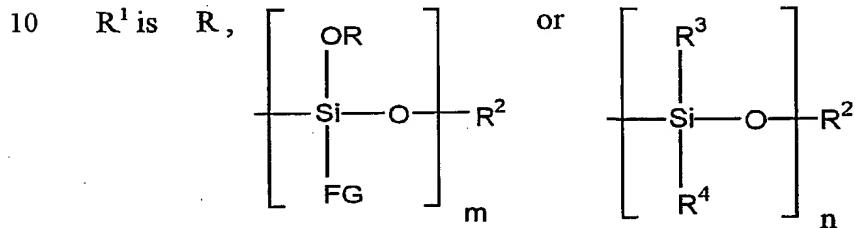
20

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens substituted with an epoxide;

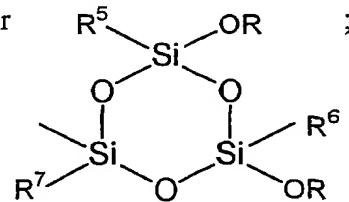
arylalkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons substituted with an epoxide;

5 arylalkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens substituted with an epoxide; and
 epoxy-functional organosiloxane residues of 1 to 20 silicones and 1 to 20 carbons.

R is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons;



R² is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons or



R³ and R⁴ are independently alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy or aryloxy of 1 to 10 carbons;

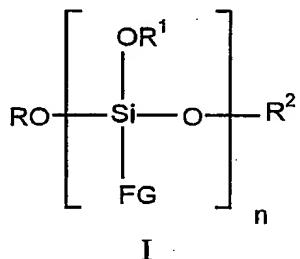
15 R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are independently FG, alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy or aryloxy of 1 to 10 carbons;

R⁸ is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy or aryloxy of 1 to 10 carbons;

m and n are independently 2 to 50; p is 2 to 50 and q is 1 to 50. Note that in this document, variables are defined when introduced and retain that definition throughout.

The foregoing oligomers may also be described in product-by-process terms as polymerizable siloxane oligomers produced by reacting one or more alkoxy silane monomers of formula $(RO)_3Si FG$ and one or more alkoxy silane monomers of formula $R^3R^4R^8SiOR^{2a}$ with 0.5 to 2.5 equivalents of water, in the presence of an ion exchange resin, optionally in the presence of a solvent, and separating the resin from the siloxane oligomer. In these monomers, R^{2a} is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons.

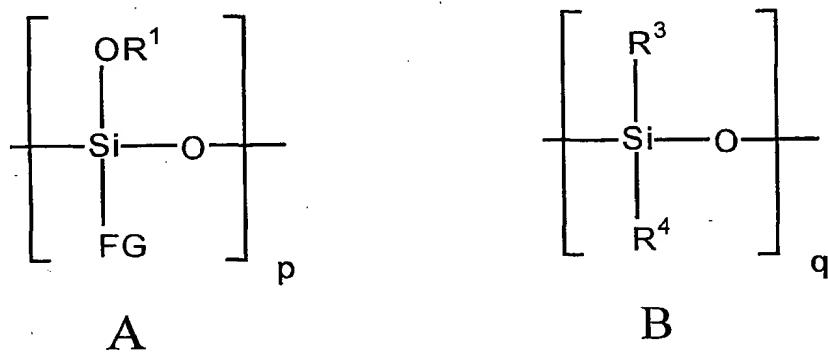
In another aspect the invention relates to (1) polymers produced by cationically polymerizing one or more of the foregoing oligomers; and (2) polymers produced by cationically co-polymerizing one or more of the foregoing oligomers with an oligomer of formula:



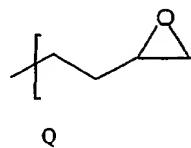
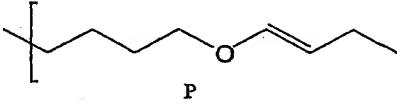
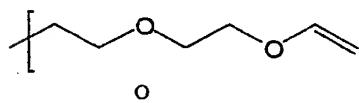
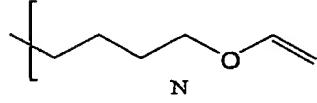
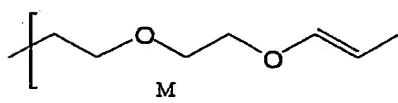
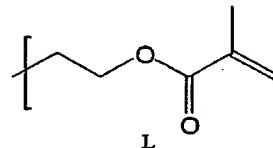
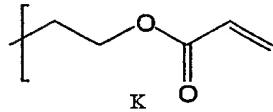
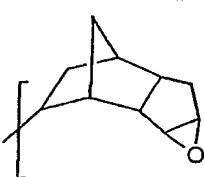
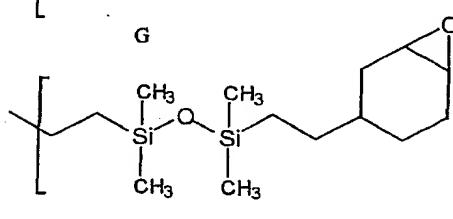
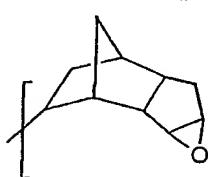
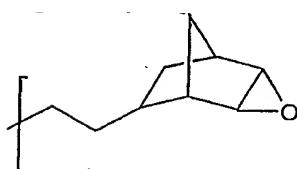
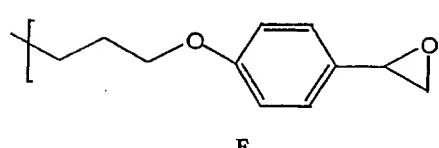
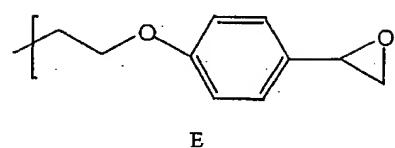
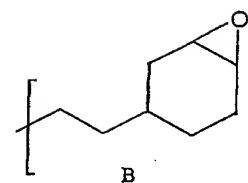
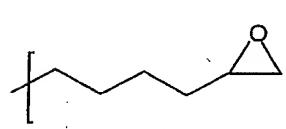
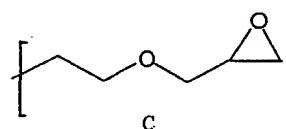
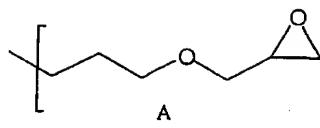
In another aspect the invention relates to a process for preparing a polymerizable siloxane oligomer comprising reacting one or more alkoxy silane monomers of formula $(RO)_3Si FG$ and one or more alkoxy silane monomers of formula $R^3R^4R^8SiOR^{2a}$ with 0.5 to 2.5 equivalents of water, in the presence of an ion exchange resin, optionally in the presence of a solvent, and separating the resin from the siloxane oligomer. The ion exchange resin is preferably a quaternary ammonium resin.

Detailed description of the Invention

The polymerizable siloxane oligomers of the invention are made up of a plurality of repeating units of formula A and at least one unit of formula B:

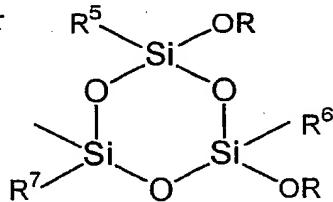


- 5 The oligomers of the invention may be block oligomers or random oligomers. Preferably the ratio of A to B (or p to q) is from 19:1 to 1:9, most preferably the ratio of A to B is from 1:1 to 3:1. In a preferred embodiment, FG is one or more residues chosen from formulae A-Q:



From among these residues, 2-(3,4-epoxycyclohexylethyl), 3-glycidoxypropyl and 1-propenoxy-2-ethoxyethyl are preferred. In an another preferred embodiment, R¹ is methyl or ethyl; R² is

methyl, methoxy, ethyl, ethoxy, phenyl or

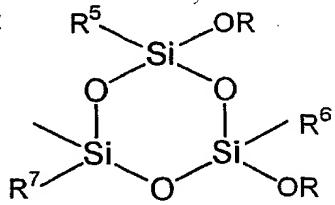


5 R³, R⁴ and R⁸ are chosen independently from methyl, methoxy, ethyl, ethoxy, and phenyl; and

R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are chosen independently from methyl, methoxy, ethyl, ethoxy, phenyl and FG.

As will be apparent to the artisan, the ratios of residues represented by R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ in a random oligomer will reflect the ratio and relative reactivities of A to B in the monomer mix from which the oligomer was prepared.

The siloxanes of the invention are straight- or branched-chain oligomers and may additionally contain one or more cyclic structures composed of three monomer units as end groups, as depicted in the formula:



15 The presence of the ring structure is dependent on the number of equivalents of water employed in the reaction and on reaction conditions, including temperature and time. The oligomer chains are composed of from two to fifty siloxane monomer units, preferably of from two to twenty monomer units.

The effective molecular weight and viscosities of the oligomers of the invention may be varied according to the desired use, both of the oligomer and of the product polymer. For many purposes oligomers in which the sum of p and q is from 4 to 20 are preferred. The rate and extent of the hydrolysis-condensation reaction are dependent on the strength of the catalyst used. Strong acids or bases cause fast hydrolysis and condensation of alkoxy silanes and high conversions to oligomers. The reaction is well controlled with ion exchange resins as catalysts. Condensation in the presence of these catalysts proceeds at a convenient rate so that the reaction times are not inordinately long and at the same time slow enough that adequate control can be maintained over the reaction to provide reproducible molecular weight control and to avoid gelation.

The polymerizable siloxanes of the invention are synthesized by base-catalyzed hydrolysis and subsequent condensation of an alkoxy silane monomer of Formula $(RO)_3SiFG$ and one or more alkoxy silane monomers of formula $R^3R^4R^8SiOR^{2a}$. In the above formula, it is preferred that the alkoxy group (RO) is methoxy or ethoxy and that the functional group FG not be polymerizable at a rate comparable to that of the alkoxy siloxane. As defined above, R^{2a} is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons and R^3 , R^4 and R^8 are independently alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy or aryloxy of 1 to 10 carbons. Preferably, R^{2a} is methyl or ethyl and R^3 , R^4 and R^8 are chosen independently from methyl, methoxy, ethyl, ethoxy, and phenyl. Monomers that provide the "B" units include: tetraethoxysilane (ethylorthosilicate), tetramethoxysilane (methylorthosilicate), tetraisopropoxysilane, methyltrimethoxysilane, ethyltriethoxysilane, hexyltriethoxysilane, cyclohexyltrimethoxysilane, 1,1,1-trifluoroethyltriethoxysilane, phenyltriethoxysilane, phenylmethyldiethoxysilane, phenylmethyldimethoxysilane, diphenyldimethoxysilane, 2-phenylethyltrimethoxysilane, benzyltriethoxysilane, vinyltrimethoxysilane, dimethyldimethoxysilane, trimethylmethoxysilane,

diethyldimethoxysilane, allyltrimethoxysilane, divinyldimethoxysilane, methyvinyldimethoxysilane, bis(triethoxysilyl)methane, bis(triethoxysilyl)ethane, butenyltrimethoxysilane, 3-bromopropyltrimethoxysilane, 2-chloroethylmethyldimethoxysilane, 1,1,2,2-tetramethoxy-1,3-dimethyldisiloxane, 5 phenyltrimethoxysilane. Also, useful in these mixtures are trimethoxysilyl-terminated polydimethylsiloxanes as well as the corresponding hydroxyl-terminated polydimethylsiloxanes. The foregoing monomers are either commercially available or readily synthesized by reactions well known in the art.

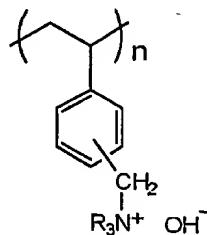
The ion exchange resin catalyzed sol-gel copolycondensation can be 10 conducted simultaneously with all the components to provide a random distribution of the resulting repeating units derived from **A** and **B** in the oligomer. Alternatively, the reaction can be conducted in a sequential fashion. In this latter case, a second alkoxy silane of either structure **A** or **B** is added after the first substrate has been consumed by reaction. This results in an oligomer in which like repeating units 15 occur together in a block structure.

The reaction is typically carried out in a solvent in which both the starting silane monomer and the siloxane product are soluble. Alcohols such as ethanol, t-butanol, n-propanol and isopropanol are preferred.

The reaction may be conducted at temperatures sufficient to maximize the 20 rate of reaction while minimizing undesirable side reactions, generally from 0-100°C and preferably from 35-70°C. At higher temperatures, the reaction is completed in a shorter time. For example, a reaction conducted at 45°C may be complete at 24 hours, while a similar reaction carried out at 60°C is complete in 12 hours. The extent of reaction may be determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy, by 25 monitoring the consumption of alkoxy groups

The degree of condensation may be controlled by varying the ratio of water to silane in the reaction mixture. Higher ratios of water result in an increase in the rate of the hydrolysis-condensation reaction and also in a greater proportion of oligomers with higher molecular weights. For example, reactions at 60°C with 1.0 and 1.5 equivalents of water will result in a broad distribution of oligomeric products in both cases, with a greater proportion of higher molecular weight material in reactions with 1.5 equivalents than in reactions with 1.0 equivalents of water. For some uses, the viscosity of the oligomer may be from 100 to 1,000,000 cps; for other uses, oligomers having a viscosity of 500 cps to 5000 cps are preferred; for yet other uses, the reaction is carried to high molecular weight, and the oligomer which is isolated is a very high viscosity liquid or a glassy solid. One set of preferred oligomers according to the process has an apparent molecular weight of 3000 to 10,000.

Various basic ion exchange resins may be employed as catalysts in the processes of this invention. For example, strongly basic ion exchange resins such as Amberlite A-27, Amberlite IRA-400 and Amberlite IRA-904 from Rohm and Haas Corp. having the structure depicted below have been employed.



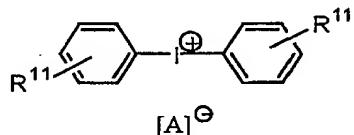
Most advantageously, the ion exchange resin is in a crosslinked bead form that permits recovery from the reaction mixture by simple filtration. The ion-exchange resin catalyst may be reused in subsequent sol-gel reactions. Alternatively, the condensations may be carried out in a continuous fashion on a fixed bed of the resin. The hydrolysis/condensation reaction does not appear limited by porosity or ion-exchange capacity of the resin. Exemplary styrene-divinyl benzene resins useful

in the practice of the invention are Amberlyst® and Amberlite®, Rohm & Haas Company; Ionac®, Sybron Chemicals; Dowex®, Dow Chemical; NRW®, Purolite; Tulsion®, Thermax, Ltd; and the CG and SBG lines of resins from Resintech, Inc. Removal of the catalyst prevents further reaction of the oligomer leading to 5 crosslinking, and results in a product which retains its initial viscosity during storage. The oligomers of the invention possess good shelf stability, showing no increase in viscosity on standing for more than two months.

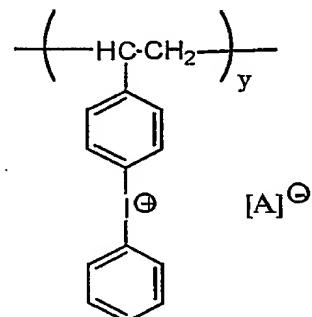
After removal of the solvent, the resulting multifunctional siloxane oligomers may be further polymerized via the functional groups FG by various 10 means. For example, the epoxy functional oligomers may be combined with amine or anhydride curing agents and polymerized by traditional thermal methods. Acrylate and methacrylate functional oligomers may be similarly thermally cured through the use of peroxide and azo free radical initiators. Alternatively, these 15 oligomers may be also photopolymerized. Epoxy, 1-propenyl ether, 1-but enyl ether and vinyl ether functional oligomers can be photopolymerized using UV or visible irradiation in the presence of diaryliodonium, dialkylphenacylsulfonium, triarylsulfonium salt, and ferrocenium salt photoinitiators. The aforementioned oligomer-photoinitiator mixtures may be also effectively cured in the presence of the above onium salts using e-beam irradiation. By the use of the proper onium catalyst 20 and/or the addition of copper compounds as co-catalysts, the oligomers may be thermally cured. Acrylate and methacrylate oligomers may be photopolymerized using a plethora of free radical photoinitiators including for example, benzoin, benzoin alkyl ethers, 1,1-diethoxyacetophenone, 1-benzoylcyclohexanol and many others.

The oligomers and the polymers resulting from the polymerization of the oligomers of the invention have many applications. For example, the polymers may be employed as protective and abrasion resistant coatings for wood, metals, plastics and glass. They may be employed as adhesive or bonding agents.

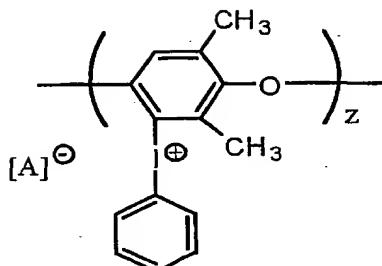
- 5 Combined with fibrous reinforcing agents the oligomers may be cured by UV and e-beam radiation and/or heat to give high performance composites. They may be further used as curable encapsulating and potting agents for electronic and microelectronic applications. Further uses lie in resins for stereolithography, holographic recording media and as optical adhesives, fiber optic coatings, waveguides in photonic applications and for other applications requiring high mechanical strength, stability at high temperatures, and high rate of cure. In the course of their use in various applications, the oligomers may be combined with various fibrous or particulate reinforcing agents, flow control and flattening agents, photosensitizers, pigments and dyes and mold releases.
- 10 The cationic polymerization initiator is preferably a diazonium, sulfonium, phosphonium, or iodonium salt. A preferred initiator is a diaryliodonium salt selected from the group having formulae (II), (III), (IV), and (V)
- 15 The cationic polymerization initiator is preferably a diazonium, sulfonium, phosphonium, or iodonium salt. A preferred initiator is a diaryliodonium salt selected from the group having formulae (II), (III), (IV), and (V)



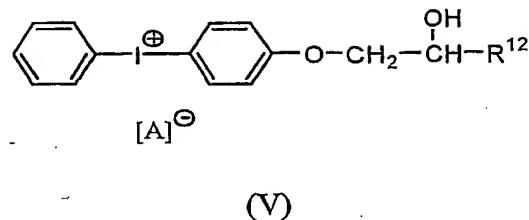
(II)



(III)



(IV)

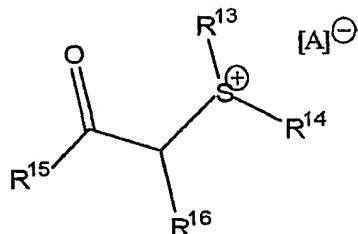


(V)

wherein each R¹¹ is independently hydrogen, C₁ to C₂₀ alkyl, C₁ to C₂₀ alkoxy, C₁ to C₂₀ hydroxyalkoxy, halogen, and nitro; R¹² is C₁ to C₃₀ alkyl or C₁ to C₃₀ cycloalkyl; y and z are each independently integers having a value of at least 5; [A]⁻ is a non-nucleophilic anion, commonly SbF₆⁻, BF₄⁻, PF₆⁻, AsF₆⁻, or (C₆F₅)₄B⁻.

5

Another preferred cationic polymerization initiator is a phenylacylsulfonium salt having formula (VI)



(VI)

wherein R¹³ is a C₁ to C₃₀ monovalent organic radical; R¹⁴ is a C₁ to C₃₀ monovalent organic radical, or R¹³ and R¹⁴ taken together may form a 5 or 6-membered ring; R¹⁵ is C₆ to C₂₀ alkyl, aryl, C₆ to C₂₀ substituted alkyl or substituted aryl; R¹⁶ is hydrogen or C₁ to C₈ alkyl; and [A]⁻ is a non-nucleophilic anion, such as previously listed. R¹⁴ may also be a photosensitizing residue.

Thermal cure of the epoxy resin can be effected through the use of the cationic polymerization initiator with or without the addition of a copper co-catalyst (accelerator). Furthermore, by changing the structures of the materials included with the oligomer and by varying their concentrations, the onset curing temperature and the speed of cure can be adjusted within a wide latitude. Curing can alternatively be induced by irradiation of the cationic polymerization initiator/epoxy resin by UV light (or at longer wavelengths as discussed below) or by e-beam. E-beam curing is described in U.S. patents 5,260,349 and 4,654,379. Curing agents are described in U.S. Patents 4,842,800, 5,015,675, 5,095,053, and 5,073,643.

10 Preferred diaryliodonium salts are [4-(2-hydroxy-1-tetradecyloxy)-phenyl] phenyliodonium hexafluoroantimonate, wherein in structure (V), $[A]^\ominus$ is SbF_6^\ominus , and R¹² is C₁₂H₂₅ (available from Polyset Company, Mechanicville, New York, as PC-2506); and wherein in structure (V), $[A]^\ominus$ is PF₆[⊖], and R¹ is C₁₂H₂₅ (available from Polyset Company as PC2508). Triarylsulfonium salts, such as the mixture of S,S-diphenyl-4-thiophenoxyphenylsulfonium hexafluoroantimonate and bis(diphenylsulfonio)4,4'-diphenylsulfide bishexafluoroantimonate are commercially available from Polyset Company as PC2505. Dialkylphenacylsulfonium salts having the general formula (VI) are disclosed in pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/208,265 filed December 8, 1998. The disclosures of the foregoing patents and application are incorporated herein by reference.

15

20

Definitions:

"Alkyl" is intended to include linear, branched, or cyclic hydrocarbon structures and combinations thereof. "Lower alkyl" refers to alkyl groups having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms. Examples of lower alkyl groups include methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, s-and t-butyl and the like. Preferred alkyl groups are those of C₂₀ or below. "Cycloalkyl" is a subset of alkyl and includes cyclic hydrocarbon groups of from 3 to 8 carbon atoms. Examples of cycloalkyl groups include c-propyl, c-butyl, c-pentyl, c-hexyl, norbornyl and the like.

25

"Alkoxy" or "alkoxyl" refers to groups of from 1 to 20 carbon atoms of a straight, branched, cyclic configuration and combinations thereof attached to the parent structure through an oxygen. Examples include methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, isopropoxy, cyclopropyloxy, cyclohexyloxy and the like. "Lower-alkoxy" refers to groups containing one to four carbons.

"Acyl" refers to groups of from 1 to 20 carbon atoms of a straight, branched, cyclic configuration, saturated, unsaturated and aromatic and combinations thereof, attached to the parent structure through a carbonyl functionality. Examples include acetyl, benzoyl, propionyl, isobutyryl, *t*-butoxycarbonyl, benzyloxycarbonyl and the like. "Lower-acyl" refers to groups containing one to four carbons.

"Aryl" refers to a 5- or 6-membered aromatic ring; a bicyclic 9- or 10-membered, partially or fully aromatic ring system; or a tricyclic 13- or 14-membered partially or fully aromatic ring system optionally substituted with 1-3 lower alkyl, halo lower alkyl, =O, -NO₂, halogen, hydroxy, alkoxy, cyano, phenyl, benzyl, phenoxy or benzyloxy. The aromatic 6- to 14-membered carbocyclic rings include, e.g., benzene, naphthalene, indane, tetralin, and fluorene.

"Arylalkyl" means an alkyl residue attached to an aryl ring. Examples are benzyl, phenethyl and the like.

The following examples are included by way of exemplification and are not intended to imply any limitation.

Examples 1 and 2: Sol-gel condensations of 2-(3,4-epoxycyclohexylethyl)-trimethoxysilane

Preparations of O1 and O2

A 50 mL round bottom flask fitted with a magnetic stirrer, reflux condenser and a thermometer was charged with 246.4 g (1 mol) of 2-(3,4-epoxycyclohexylethyl)-trimethoxysilane, 1.5 equivalents (27 g) of deionized water, 8 g of Amberlite IRA-400 ion exchange resin, and 50 mL of isopropanol. The

colorless solution was stirred and heated at reflux (~80°C) for 4 hours (**O2**) and 6 hours (**O1**). After the designated reaction time, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting in a colorless, viscous liquid. Oligomers were further characterized by ¹H NMR spectroscopy and by RTIR analysis.

5 Examples 3-6 : Sol-gel condensations of 2-(3,4-Epoxycyclohexylethyl)trimethoxysilane with methyltrimethoxysilane, phenyltrimethoxysilane, methyl phenyldimethoxysilane and diphenyldimethoxysilane.

In a manner similar to examples 1 and 2, there were combined in a 500 mL round bottom flask fitted with a magnetic stirrer, reflux condenser and a thermometer, 0.7 equivalents (172.5 g) of 2-(3,4-epoxycyclohexylethyl)trimethoxysilane and 0.3 equivalents of methyltrimethoxysilane (to produce oligomer **O3**), phenyltrimethoxysilane (to produce oligomer **O4**), 0.3 equivalents of methyl phenyldimethoxysilane (to produce oligomer **O5**) or 0.3 equivalents of diphenyldimethoxysilane (to produce oligomer **O6**). To this mixture was added 1.5 equivalents (27g) of deionized water, 8 g of Amberlite IRA-400 ion exchange resin, and 50 mL of isopropanol. The colorless solution was stirred and heated at reflux (~80°C) for 22 hours for **O3** and 12 hours for **O4**, **O5** and **O6**. After the designated reaction time, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the resulting colorless, viscous liquid oligomers were obtained.

20 Examples 7-10: Thermal polymerization of oligomers **O3-O6**.

To each of the above resins was added 2% by weight of a 50% solution of 4(2-hydroxy-1-tetradecyloxyphenyl)phenyliodonium hexafluoroantimonate dissolved in 3,4-epoxycyclohexylmethyl 3',4'-epoxycyclohexanecarboxylate (Union Carbide ERL-4221E). Four grams of the mixture was placed into a shallow aluminum pan and the pan placed in a forced air oven at 165°C for 1.5 hours. Transparent, colorless cured resin castings were obtained. The cured samples were

removed from the pan and then cut into bar specimens for mechanical and thermal testing. The results of those tests are given in Table 1.

In general, the modified resins (**O3-O6**) display comparable mechanical and thermal characteristics to the unmodified resins (**O1** and **O2**) and, in addition, 5 display better resistance to cracking and crazing. The very small changes of the CTE values throughout the temperature range from 0-200°C are indicative of a very highly crosslinked system.

Table 1
Results of Mechanical and Thermal Testing of Resins

	Property	O3	O2	O4	O5	O6	O1
10	<u>Curing Characteristics</u>						
	cracking	-	minor	no	no	no	minor
	crazing	-	minor	minor	no	no	yes
	separation	-	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
15	<u>DSC Cure*</u>						
	ΔH (J/g)	171	312	300	322	280	283
	onset (°C)	182	160	140	140	140	170
	Peak (°C)	191	168	160	163	167	182
	peak height (MW)	38	34	24	18	15	49
20	<u>CTE[#]</u>						
	0-100 (°C)	95	80	107	105	95	65
	0-200 (°C)	105	92	128	120	110	73
	100-200 (°C)	115	104	150	139	125	83
25	<u>Storage Modulus</u>						
	25°C (GPa)	0.850	.850	1.16	0.925	0.820	1.6
	150°C (GPa)	0.650	0.720	0.53	0520	0.480	1.3
	Δ (MPa) [†]	200	130	630	405	340	300
30	<u>Viscosity</u>						
	@ 25°C (cps)	78000	23000	11500	30200	semisolid	semisolid
	@ 65°C (cps)	3617	1320	-	-	15500	14000

*Heating rate 10°C/min in air. [#]Coefficient of thermal expansion. [†]Change in modulus from 25-150 °C.

Examples 11-16 Mixtures of Modified and Unmodified Resins

Combined and thermally cured were 50/50 wt% mixtures of **O1** or **O2** with modified resins **O4-O6**. The compositions are given in Table 2. The mechanical and thermal properties are depicted in Table 3.

5

Table 2**Compositions of Mixed Oligomers**

Example	11	12	13	14	15	16
10	O1	50	50	50	-	-
	O2	-	-	-	50	50
	O4	50	-	-	50	-
	O5	-	50	-	-	50
	O6	-	-	50	-	50

The thermal and mechanical properties of the thermally cured mixtures of **O1** or **O2** with the modified resins **O4-O6** are excellent.

Table 3
Results of Mechanical and Thermal Testing of Resins Mixtures

Property		11	12	13	14	15	16
5	<u>Curing Characteristics</u>						
	Cracking	no	no	no	no	no	no
	Separation	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
	Crazing	minor	no	no	yes	no	no
		-					
10	<u>DSC Cure*</u>						
	ΔH (J/g)	254	241	244	245	244	243
	onset (°C)	140	160	160	160	160	160
	Peak (°C)	173	179	180	174	177	177
	Peak hight	39	41	39	56	37	39
15	<u>CTE[#]</u>						
	0-100 (°C)	104	98	80	112	105	100
	0-200 (°C)	116	108	90	122	115	110
	100-200 (°C)	127	118	100	132	125	120
20	<u>Storage Modulus</u>						
	25°C (GPa)	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.2	1.25	1.2
	150°C (GPa)	0.746	0.889	1.01	0.765	0.849	0.849
	Δ (MPa) [†]	451	422	390	440	397	357

*Heating rate 10°C/min in air. [#]Coefficient of thermal expansion. [†]Change in modulus from 25-150 °C.

Example 17 - amine cure

To 10 g of a resin (04) prepared by the condensation of 3 parts of phenyltrimethoxysilane and 7 parts of 4(2-trimethoxysilyl)ethyl)epoxycyclohexane there were added 3.5 g Epi-cure 826 amine hardener from the Shell Company. The

blend was thoroughly mixed, poured into a shallow pan and then allowed to stand at 50° for 1 hour in a forced air oven. At the end of this time, the reaction mixture was found to consist of a hard, insoluble, crosslinked resin.

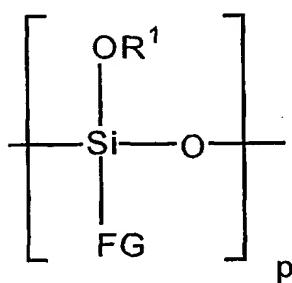
Example 18 - anhydride cure

To 10 g of a resin (05) prepared by the condensation of 3 parts of diphenyldimethoxysilane and 7 parts of 4(2-trimethoxysilyl)epoxycyclohexane there were added 3.5 g hexahydrophthalic anhydride. The blend was thoroughly mixed, poured into a shallow pan and then allowed to stand at 165° for 1 hour in a forced air oven. At the end of this time, the reaction mixture was found to consist of a hard, insoluble, crosslinked resin.

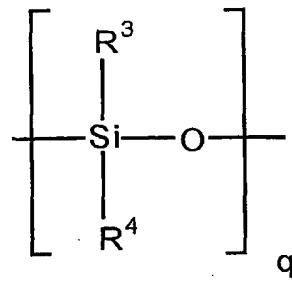
CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A polymerizable siloxane oligomer comprising a plurality of repeating units of formula A and at least one unit of formula B:



A



B

and terminating in a residue R^2 or R^8 , wherein

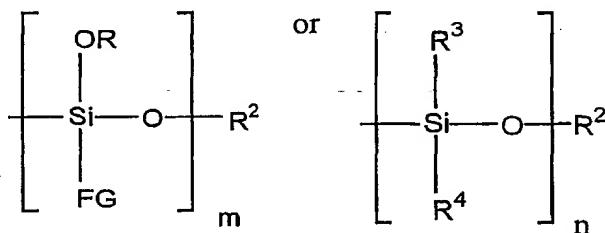
- 5 FG is a functional group and each FG in said oligomer is independently chosen from linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons terminating in a 1-alkenyl ether;
- linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens terminating in a 1-alkenyl ether;
- 10 linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons terminating in an acrylate, an alpha-chloroacrylate, an alpha-cyanoacrylate or a methacrylate;
- linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens terminating in an acrylate, an alpha-chloroacrylate, an alpha-cyanoacrylate or a methacrylate;
- 15 linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons substituted with an epoxide;
- linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens substituted with an epoxide;
- arylalkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons substituted with an epoxide;

20 arylalkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens substituted with an epoxide; and

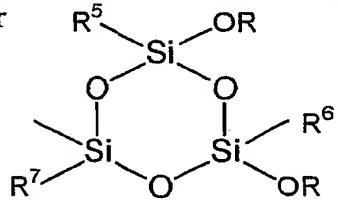
epoxy-functional organosiloxane residues of 1 to 20 silicones and 1 to 20 carbons;

R is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons;

25 R¹ is R,



R² is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons
or



R³ and R⁴ are independently alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy or aryloxy of 1 to 10 carbons;

30 R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are independently FG, alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy or aryloxy of 1 to 10 carbons;

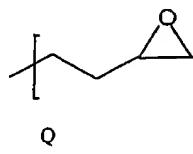
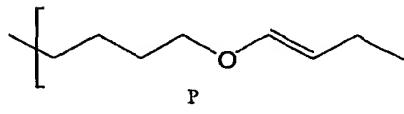
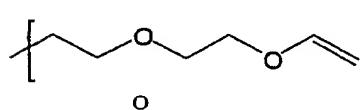
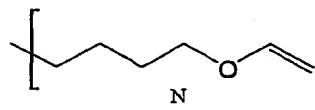
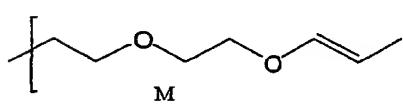
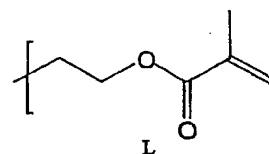
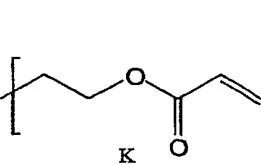
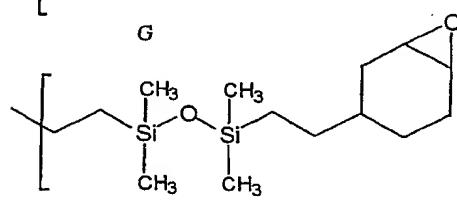
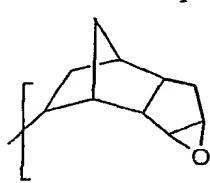
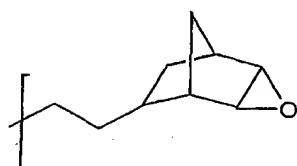
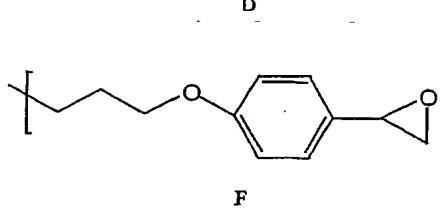
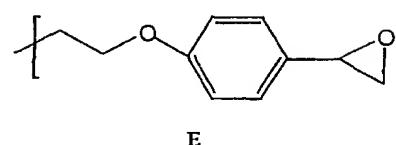
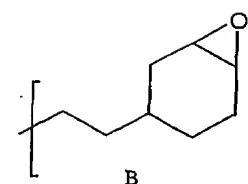
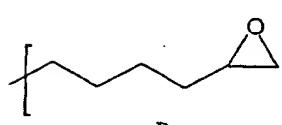
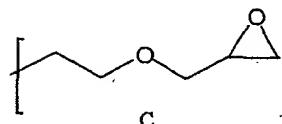
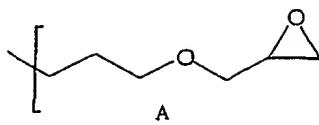
R⁸ is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy or aryloxy of 1 to 10 carbons;

m and n are independently 2 to 50; and

p is 2 to 50.

35 q is 1 to 50.

2. A block oligomer according to claim 1.
3. A random oligomer according to claim 1.
4. An oligomer according to claim 1 wherein the ratio of A to B is from 19:1 to 1:9.
5. An oligomer according to claim 1 wherein the ratio of A to B is from 1:1 to 3:1.
6. An oligomer according to claim 1 wherein each FG has a structure independently chosen from the group consisting of residues of formulae A-Q:

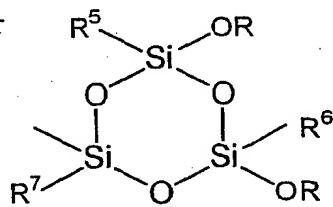


7. An oligomer according to claim 1, wherein each FG is independently 2-(3,4-epoxycyclohexylethyl), 3-glycidoxypropyl, or 1-propenoxy-2-ethoxy ethyl.

8. An oligomer according to claim 1, wherein:

R¹ is methyl or ethyl;

R² is methyl, methoxy, ethyl, ethoxy, phenyl or



R³, R⁴ and R⁸ are chosen independently from methyl, methoxy, ethyl, 5 ethoxy, and phenyl; and

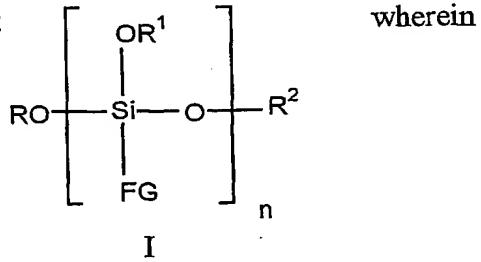
R⁵, R⁶ and R⁷ are chosen independently from methyl, methoxy, ethyl, ethoxy, phenyl and FG.

9. An oligomer according to claim 1, wherein the sum of p and q is from 4 to 20.

10. A polymer produced by cationically polymerizing an oligomer according to claim 1.

11. A polymer produced by cationically co-polymerizing an oligomer according to claim 1

and an oligomer of formula:



FG is a functional group and each FG in said oligomer is independently chosen from

5 linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons terminating in a 1-alkenyl ether;

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens terminating in a 1-alkenyl ether;

10 linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons terminating in an acrylate, an alpha-chloroacrylate, an alpha-cyanoacrylate or a methacrylate;

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens terminating in an acrylate, an alpha-chloroacrylate, an alpha-cyanoacrylate or a methacrylate;

15 linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons substituted with an epoxide;

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens substituted with an epoxide;

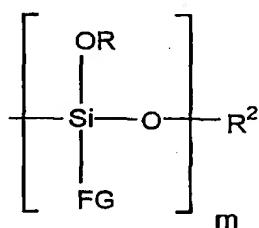
arylalkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons substituted with an epoxide;

arylalkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens substituted 20 with an epoxide; and

epoxy-functional organosiloxane residues of 1 to 20 silicones and 1 to 20 carbons;

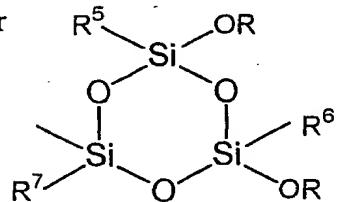
R is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons;

R^1 is R or



25 R² is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons

or



and m and n are independently 2 to 50.

12. A polymer produced by e-beam polymerization of an oligomer according to claim 1.

13. A polymer produced by polymerizing an oligomer according to claim 1 with an amine or anhydride.

14. A polymerizable siloxane oligomer produced by reacting one or more alkoxy silane monomers of formula (RO)₃Si FG and one or more alkoxy silane monomers of formula R³R⁴R⁸SiOR^{2a} wherein:

FG has a structure independently chosen for each monomer from the group consisting of:

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons terminating in a 1-alkenyl ether;

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens terminating in a 1-alkenyl ether;

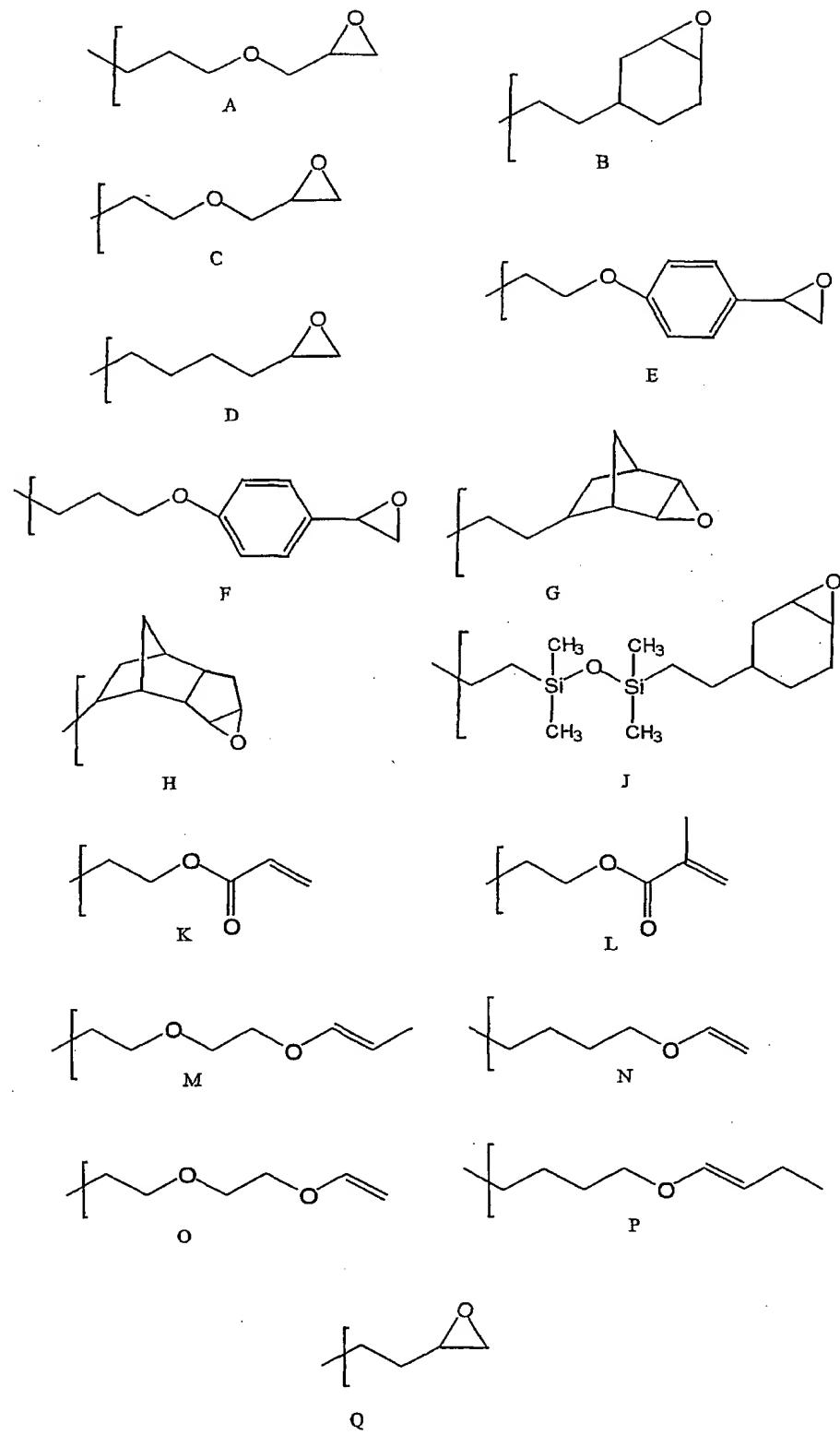
10 linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons terminating in an acrylate, an alpha-chloroacrylate, an alpha-cyanoacrylate or a methacrylate;

linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens terminating in an acrylate, an alpha-chloroacrylate, an alpha-cyanoacrylate or a methacrylate;

- 15 linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons substituted with an epoxide;
- linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens substituted with an epoxide;
- arylalkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons substituted with an epoxide;
- 20 arylalkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens substituted with an epoxide; and
- epoxy-functional organosiloxane residues of 1 to 20 silicones and 1 to 20 carbons;
- R is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons;
- 25 R^{2a} is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons;
- R³, R⁴ and R⁸ are independently alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy or aryloxy of 1 to 10 carbons;
- with 0.5 to 2.5 equivalents of water, in the presence of an ion exchange resin, optionally in the presence of a solvent, and separating the resin from said siloxane
- 30 oligomer.

15. A polymerizable oligomer according to claim 14 having a molecular weight between 3000 and 10,000.

16. A polymerizable siloxane oligomer according to claim 14, wherein FG has a structure independently chosen for each monomer from the group consisting of the structures of Formulae A-Q:



17. A polymerizable siloxane oligomer according to claim 14, wherein FG for each monomer is independently 2-(3,4-epoxycyclohexylethyl) or 3-glycidoxypropyl.

18. A polymerizable siloxane oligomer according to claim 14, wherein R is methyl or ethyl and R³, R⁴ and R⁸ are chosen independently from methyl, methoxy, ethyl, ethoxy, and phenyl.

19. A process for preparing a polymerizable siloxane oligomer comprising: reacting one or more alkoxy silane monomers of formula (RO)₃Si FG and one or more alkoxy silane monomers of formula R³R⁴R⁸SiOR^{2a} wherein FG has a structure independently chosen for each monomer from the group consisting of:

- 5 linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons terminating in a 1-alkenyl ether;
- linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens terminating in a 1-alkenyl ether;
- linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons terminating in
10 an acrylate, an alpha-chloroacrylate, an alpha-cyanoacrylate or a methacrylate;
- linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens terminating in an acrylate, an alpha-chloroacrylate, an alpha-cyanoacrylate or a methacrylate;
- linear, branched and cyclic alkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons substituted
15 with an epoxide;
- linear, branched and cyclic alkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens substituted with an epoxide;
- arylalkyl residues of 1 to 20 carbons substituted with an epoxide;
- arylalkyl ether residues of 1 to 20 carbons and 1 to 9 oxygens substituted
20 with an epoxide; and

epoxy-functional organosiloxane residues of 1 to 20 silicons and 1 to 20 carbons;

R is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons;

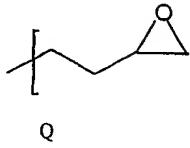
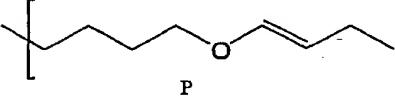
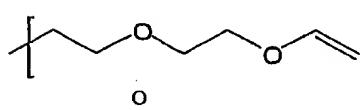
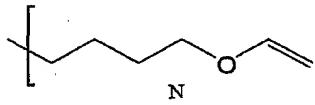
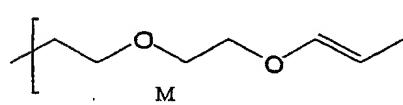
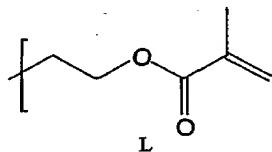
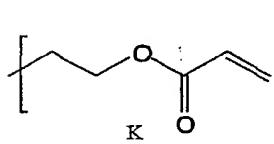
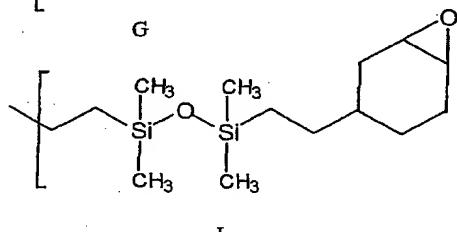
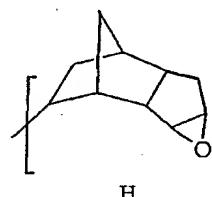
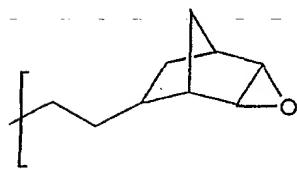
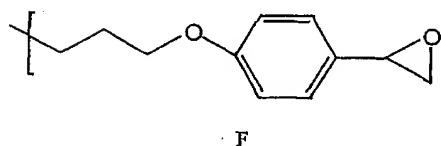
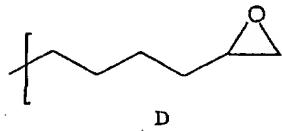
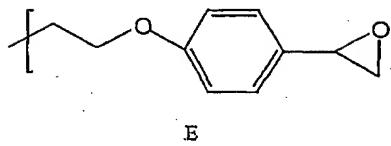
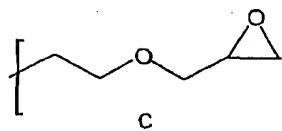
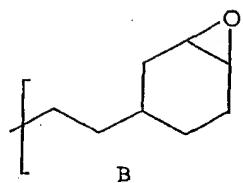
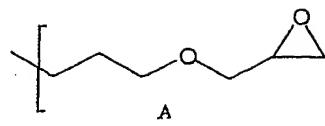
R^{2a} is alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl or aralkyl of 1 to 10 carbons;

25 R³, R⁴ and R⁸ are independently alkyl, aryl, haloalkyl, aralkyl, alkoxy or aryloxy of 1 to 10 carbons;

with 0.5 to 2.5 equivalents of water, in the presence of an ion exchange resin, optionally in the presence of a solvent, and separating the resin from said siloxane oligomer.

20. A process according to claim 19 wherein said ion exchange resin is a quaternary ammonium resin.

21. A process according to claim 19, wherein FG has a structure independently chosen for each monomer from the group consisting of the structures of Formulae A-Q:



22. A process according to claim 19, wherein R is methyl or ethyl and R³, R⁴ and R⁸ are chosen independently from methyl, methoxy, ethyl, ethoxy, and phenyl.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US00/08666

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) :C08G 77/08, 77/18, 77/20

US CL : 528/418, 421, 32, 33, 41; 556/458; 549/215; 526/279

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 528/418, 421, 32, 33, 41; 556/458; 549/215; 526/279

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,650,474 A (YAMAYA et al.) 22 July 1997 (22/07/97) col. 3, lines 35-50, col. 4, lines 8-11	1, 3-9, 14-18
Y	US 6,011,079 A (DOUGHERTY et al.) 04 January 2000 (04/01/00) col. 1, lines 32-33	10
Y	US 5,035,894 A (LEE et al.) 30 July 1991 (30/07/91) col. 4, lines 52-57, col. 8, lines 18-20	12
A,E	US 6,046,276 A (AMBROSE et al.) 04 April 2000 (04/04/00) col. 7, lines 55-56, col. 8, lines 1-2	13
A,E	US 6,069,259 A (CRIVELLO) 30 May 2000 (30/05/00)	1-22

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
"E"	earlier document published on or after the international filing date
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"&"	document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

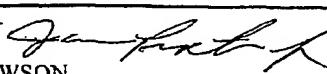
15 JUNE 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

20 JUL 2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box PCT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer 
ROBERT DAWSON
Telephone No. (703) 308-0661